

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Claims 1 to 5 (cancelled)**

**Claim 6 (currently amended)**

An agent ~~comprising~~ containing a protein of claim 14 ~~containing an effective amount of the protein for preventing and treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage.~~

**Claim 7 (previously submitted)**

The agent for treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage according to claim 6, wherein the disease is osteoporosis.

**Claim 8 (previously submitted)**

The agent for treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage according to claim 6, wherein the disease is osteoarthritis or arthrosclerosis.

**Claim 9 (previously submitted)**

The agent for treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage according to claim 6, wherein the disease is bone fracture.

**Claim 10 (previously submitted)**

The agent for treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage according to claim 6, wherein the disease is a lack of root of teeth and a tooth socket.

**Claims 11 to 13 (cancelled).**

**Claim 14** (currently amended)

The A MP52 protein ~~according to claim 13~~, comprising an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID No: 2 of the sequence listing.